



March/April 2014

## Message from the Director

March was a banner month for Illinois and the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) with our state hosting the first-ever Forbes Reinventing America Summit in Chicago and receiving top accolades and rankings in several different areas of commerce. *Site Selection* Magazine ranked Illinois #3 and Chicago #1 for corporate facility expansions nationwide and Illinois was ranked first in the nation for renewable energy use. Additionally, Chicago ranked in the top 10 for biopharma clusters and job creation.

DCEO has been integral to this success – working hard to create jobs and improve economic growth throughout the state, with our small business programs, DCEO-led international trade missions and numerous job training and skills enhancement programs.

This month's highlights include:



Courtesy of Forbes

Last week DCEO was a participant at the [Forbes Reinventing America Summit](#) held in Chicago. This event was a first-of-its-kind meeting of more than 300 industrial executives and business leaders, innovators and entrepreneurs, growth-focused policy-makers and academics to discuss the resurgence of U.S. manufacturing and help usher in the next industrial revolution.

Driven by technological advances, innovative manufacturing techniques, a huge domestic energy boom and a new generation of American leaders, employment in the nation's industrial core – manufacturing – is rebounding. Key topics were innovations in manufacturing, reinvesting finance – funding beyond Silicon Valley and reinventing education to produce a highly-skilled American workforce.

Steve Forbes with premiere business publication, *Forbes Magazine*, mentioned in regards to hosting the summit in Chicago, "We thought it would be very appropriate to do it in Chicago, I think mid-America is going to have a real

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[Illinois #3 for Corporate Facility Expansions, up from #5 Last Year](#)

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## Stay Connected



Did you miss last month's newsletter?

Read past issues [here](#).

renaissance and Chicago is the center of it.”

Speakers included Ford Executive Chairman Bill Ford, Honeywell CEO David Cote, Forbes Editor-in-Chief Steve Forbes, US Secretary of Agriculture Thomas Vilsack, Chicago-based businessman and investor Sam Zell and other executives from leading American corporations, state governors from across the country and academics from the nation’s top universities.

Illinois is already home to many of the world’s leading manufacturers including; Caterpillar, Ford, John Deere, Chrysler, Illinois Tool Works, Navistar, Tenneco, ADM, Kraft Foods – and Boeing’s global headquarters are here too.

Click [here](#) for articles and videos from the summit and [here](#) for the agenda and participants. Watch a CNBC [video](#) discussing the US energy revolution and a mid-American manufacturing renaissance.



Courtesy of Fox News



Courtesy of Forbes



Courtesy of Site Selection

2013 Top States by Number of Projects		
	State	Count
1	Texas	657
2	Ohio	480
3	Illinois	383
4	Pennsylvania	348
5	Michigan	312
6	Georgia	299
7	North Carolina	223
8	Virginia	208
9	Florida	193
10	Tennessee	187

Source: Conway Data, Inc.'s New Plant Database

This month *Site Selection* magazine released their **2013 Governor’s Cup rankings with Illinois moving to third place**, up from fifth last year. States are ranked by the number of projects for new and expanded corporate facilities. Illinois had more than 380 qualifying new and expanded facilities projects.

And Chicago was named the **#1 Top Metro Area**, registering 373 corporate facility investment deals, more deals than any other metropolitan area in the entire United States. *Site Selection* says “from digital startups to behemoths of industry, Chicago fosters corporate facility growth better than any other metro in the U.S.”

Click [here](#) to read the 2013 *Site Selection* Governor’s Cup press release. To view all state and metro rankings go to [March 2014 Site Selection Digital Edition](#).



Courtesy of Site Selection

## Top 10 U.S. Biopharma Clusters

GEN's algorithm provides a unique basis for comparison.



Courtesy of Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology News

**Chicago was named one of the top 10 biopharma clusters in the United States** by *Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology News*. The five key criteria for the rankings are number of patents awarded, NIH grant funding, venture capital funding, total lab space in the region and number of jobs. To see the full list of biopharma clusters please visit [Top 10 U.S. Biopharma Clusters](#).

Chicago has been host to the annual Biotechnology Industry Organization convention three times in only eight years – in 2006, 2010 and 2013. The Chicago metro area is home to major biopharma players including: Abbott, Baxter, Hospira, Takeda, Astellas and many others. Click [here](#) to check out a Chicago Life Science Map on the Illinois Science + Technology Park website.

Additionally, a Harvard Business School project mentioned in a recent *Site Selection* article ranked Chicago the number one metro area and Illinois the number two state for biopharma job creation between 2000 and 2010.

### Top States

biopharma jobs created  
2000-2010

State	Count
1 California	23,722
2 Illinois	15,863
3 Florida	1,659
4 Minnesota	1,167
5 Massachusetts	919
6 Washington	870
7 Utah	851
8 Alabama	434
9 Delaware	375
10 Vermont	365

Source: Cluster Mapping Project, Harvard Business School

Courtesy of Site Selection

### Top Areas

biopharma jobs created 2000-2010

Area	Count
1 Chicago-Naperville-Joliet, Ill.-Ind.-Wis.	17,035
2 San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont, Calif.	14,139
3 San Diego-Carlsbad-San Marcos, Calif.	2,354
4 Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, Fla.	2,260
5 Bloomington, Ind.	1,375

Source: Cluster Mapping Project, Harvard Business School

Courtesy of Site Selection





Courtesy of GSM Association and Mobile World Congress

In February, a **DCEO-led trade mission of 15 Illinois companies** showcased their new digital products and services to a global audience of over 70,000 at the Mobile World Congress held in Barcelona, Spain. The show provided an unparalleled opportunity for Illinois companies to find international business leads. This is the first-ever participation by Illinois companies at the international event, and is part of the state's plan to advance the high-tech industry in Illinois, creating jobs and driving the state's economy forward.

The trade mission, led by DCEO and supported by corporate sponsors, is part of the state's commitment to nurture Illinois' technology and innovation economies, increase export sales for Illinois employers and help small businesses gain exposure. Financial assistance came from private sponsors and the State Trade and Export Promotion Program. Click [here](#) to read the press release and view a listing of Illinois businesses that attended the show. Also check out [Mobile World Congress](#) for more information.



Courtesy of GSM Association

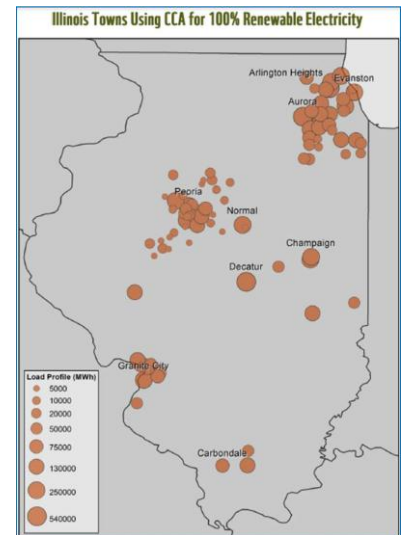


## Leading from the Middle

### How Illinois Communities Unleashed Renewable Energy

Courtesy of Go Clean Go Local Coalition

A new report has **Illinois leading the nation in the number of communities using renewable electricity**, with 91 Illinois communities having achieved 100 percent renewable electricity. These 91 communities represent more than 1.7 million individuals. According to the report, demand for renewable energy from the state is more than six terawatt hours, a reduction in greenhouse gas comparable to taking more than one million cars off the road. To view the full report, visit



Courtesy of Go Clean Go Local Coalition



Courtesy of Go Clean Go Local Coalition

[gocleangolocal.org/illinoisreport/](http://gocleangolocal.org/illinoisreport/).

A 2009 Illinois law allows communities to buy their own electricity. More than 600 have done so, including the 91 who buy renewable energy directly or credits to help fund renewable energy development. According to the Energy Information Administration, Illinois is fifth in the nation for the wind power electric generation with more than seven million megawatt-hours in 2012. And according to a study by the Center for Renewable Energy at Illinois State University, the state's 23 largest wind farms created over 19,000 full-time equivalent jobs and support approximately 814 permanent jobs in rural Illinois.



An Illinois company is taking an innovative approach to support Illinois' small businesses by driving local investments. **Bolstr** is a marketplace where accredited investors can discover and invest in exciting local small businesses and support our state's economy, by investing locally and earning high yield returns. Minimum investments are only \$1,000, allowing investors to support several businesses and establish a diversified pool of exposure. Approved small businesses are innovative, highly motivated and up-and-coming consumer facing brands.

Bolstr is designed for businesses with at least 1-2 years of historical revenue and a capital need of \$25,000 - \$250,000 to invest in a revenue driving initiative. Bolstr provides access to capital to an underserved demographic of businesses which are unable to access funding from banks, and are too early stage to receive institutional or angel investment capital. To find out more go to [www.bolstr.com](http://www.bolstr.com).



We know that Illinois is a great place to live and work, which is why millions of people call it home. With your help, we will make it even better.

Please pass this newsletter along, and be sure to connect with us on social media for up to the minute announcements on programs, events and items of interest to businesses and job seekers across the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Pollet".

Adam Pollet, Director DCEO

[www.illinois.gov/dceo](http://www.illinois.gov/dceo)

We'd like to hear from you. Please sign up for our monthly [DCEO newsletter](#)

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